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1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of*
2 *the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That*
3 all persons claiming lands in any part of the State of Louis-
4 iana which lies west of the river Mississippi and Bayou Man-
5 chac, or in any part of the Mississippi Territory which lies
6 north of the thirty-first degree of latitude, by virtue of any
7 French, British, or Spanish grant, warrant or order of survey,
8 or of any act of Congress, whose claims have been disallowed
9 by the respective boards of commissioners, or by the registers
0 and receivers acting as such, who were authorized to examine
1 and decide on the same, may, after the first day of
2 and until the first day of withdraw from

13 the registers of the respective land offices in said State and
 14 Territory, and file with the commissioners to be hereinafter
 15 mentioned, all the evidence of their claims; and all persons
 16 claiming lands in said State or Territory as above described,
 17 by virtue of any French, British, or Spanish grant, warrant,
 18 or order of survey, or of any act of Congress whose claims
 19 have not been filed in conformity to the provisions of the acts
 20 of Congress relating to the adjustment of claims to land in
 21 said State and Territory, may, after the first day of
 22 and until the first day of _____ give notice of their
 23 claims to the said commissioners, and file with them all the
 24 evidence thereof.

1 SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That three persons shall
 2 be appointed, and constituted a board of commissioners, to
 3 sit at such place as shall be designated by the President of the
 4 United States, whose duty it shall be to examine all claims as
 5 aforesaid, which may be filed with them in conformity to this
 6 act, and to decide thereon conformably to the provisions of the
 7 acts of Congress having relation to such claims, and consist-
 8 ently with equitable views and considerations of the principles,
 9 laws, usages, and customs, of the respective governments from
 10 which the claims have been derived. The said commission-
 11 ers shall have power to appoint a clerk, who shall be a person
 12 capable of translating the French and Spanish languages, and

13 whose duty it shall be to translate title papers, or evidence of
 14 claims, when required by the commissioners, and to keep a
 15 regular record of all their proceedings and decisions; which
 16 record shall be transmitted to the commissioner of the general
 17 land office on the dissolution of the board. And the said
 18 commissioners and clerk shall, before entering on the duties
 19 of their appointment, respectively, take an oath or affirmation,
 20 truly and faithfully to execute the duties imposed on them by
 21 this act. And each of the commissioners shall be allowed at
 22 the rate of dollars per annum, and the clerk
 23 at the rate of dollars per annum: *Provided,*
 24 that not more than two years compensation shall be allowed
 25 for the services to be performed under this act.

1 SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That the decision of the
 2 commissioners on any of the claims which may be submitted,
 3 whether against or in favour of the claimant, shall be final,
 4 and shall have in law all the effect of a decision of the supreme
 5 court of the United States; and the act of filing the claims,
 6 in pursuance of this act, shall be conclusive evidence that the
 7 claimant accepts the provisions of this act, and submits to such
 8 a final decision as the commissioners may make in his case.
 9 And when a claim founded on an incomplete title shall be con-
 10 firmed by the commissioners, they shall give a certificate
 11 thereof to the claimant, to whom a patent shall issue, as is

12 provided in other cases of confirmed claims: *Provided, how-*
13 *ever,* that the powers vested in the said commissioners by this
14 act shall not extend to the adjudication of any claim to land for
15 a quantity exceeding thousand acres, or of any British
16 grant of land in the Mississippi Territory which has been re-
17 granted by Spain or the United States, or of any claim to land
18 which has been sold under the authority of the United States.